



The Florida House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

Dean Cannon
Speaker

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Legislation to Expand School Choice Passes House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee

Tallahassee, Fla. – The House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee today passed House Bill 1331, a measure that would expand public school choice through the Opportunity Scholarship Program.

“Access to a quality education is a fundamental right of every child in Florida,” said Representative Kelli Stargel (R- Lakeland), chair of the House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee. “And I thank Representative Bileca for sponsoring this important legislation that recognizes that right and empowers parents to take their child out of a low-performing school and place that child in a higher-performing public school in Florida.”

The legislation revises the definition of a failing school for purposes of student eligibility for the Opportunity Scholarship Program. The measure also expands the authorization parents currently have to choose a higher-performing public school that has space available in an adjacent school district to include any other school district in the state.

“Expanding school choice is paramount to ensuring that our children attend schools that have a proven track record of delivering a quality education, regardless of whether that school falls within a given district,” added Representative Stargel.

“I applaud the members of the House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee today for passing this noteworthy legislation,” said Representative Bill Proctor (R-St. Augustine), chair of the House Education Committee. “Parents play an integral role in their children’s education and school choice is an important tool for parents to use when making decisions that could dramatically improve their child’s education.”

“It is encouraging to see this measure pass, and I look forward to seeing this bill continue to move through the committee process,” concluded Representative Proctor.

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